PROPOSAL SELECTION CRITERIA
Each proposal will be carefully reviewed based on the following criteria:
- Definition and focus of the topic
- Practical application of material
- Overall program content and quality
- Alignment to conference strands
- Previous evaluations, if applicable

The annual Synergy Conference convenes attendees at different levels of experience, so please consider how your proposed workshop can target this diversity. Workshops should encourage active learning, demonstrate innovative thinking, and present relevant research/best practices. Presenters should have significant expertise in their topic area and have spoken successfully in front of large groups prior to Synergy 2020.

WORKSHOP INFORMATION
- All workshops will be 75 minutes in length.
- Workshops are limited to 1-2 presenters. However, if you have 2 presenters, the conference registration fee will be waived for the main presenter only.
- All rooms will be pre-set with tables and chairs. You may rearrange as needed. However, the room must be returned to its pre-set condition before the arrival of the next presenter.
- NC CAP will provide a screen and projector for each session. Presenters must bring their own laptop. Any other materials are the responsibility of the presenter.
- Hotel Accommodations will be available at the Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons at the rate of $147/night.
- Since this is a practitioner focused conference, all PowerPoint presentations must be provided for public access from the NC CAP website. All approved presenters must submit their workshop presentation in PDF format by April 10, 2020.

SUBMISSION DETAILS
Incomplete proposals will not be considered and all proposals must be submitted electronically 5pm on January 31, 2020 here: https://publicschoolforumofnc.wufoo.com/forms/m1aemru20wvowmt/. Please review the guidelines carefully before submitting your proposal. Presenters will be notified about the status of their proposal by February 21, 2020. All presenters will be required to attend a virtual pre-conference briefing to present at Synergy 2020. Contact Sheronda Fleming at sfleming@ncforum.org with questions.
CONFERENCE STRAND DESCRIPTIONS

**ARTS & LITERACY**
- Workshops on creating opportunities for self-expression through the arts in a creative and constructive manner; leveraging the creative, academic and developmental benefits of arts education; supporting grade-level reading in expanded learning programs, infusing literacy into all areas of programs; and literacy-specific activities to support English-language learners.

**CLOSING GAPS**
- Workshops on effective practices associated with improving academic performance, school attendance, and decreasing misconduct and limiting behaviors among minority youth and students with a low socioeconomic status in afterschool and extended learning programs.

**COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS**
- Workshops on affording youth with early exposure to college standards and employable skills; identifying connections between current interests and future aspirations for youth; leveraging partnerships with local colleges, universities, businesses and military branches for college and career exposure; and involving families in post-secondary planning.

**MENTORING**
- Workshops on research-informed and practitioner-approved best practices for creating and sustaining impactful mentoring relationships, strong program services, and responsiveness to the racial and cultural dynamics of its clients, stakeholders, and the community at large.

**ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY**
- Workshops on fundraising, grant writing and stewardship of donors and funds; social media outreach, recruitment, retention, supervision, evaluation, development and coaching of staff and volunteers; afterschool advocacy through engagement of elected officials and policymakers; and leveraging parent and family engagement.

**PUBLIC & PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**
- Workshops on developing and sustaining school-community partnerships; cultivating cross-sector collaboration with the health, education, and juvenile justice sectors; recruiting local businesses and corporate partners; rural and urban program models; engaging the faith-based community; higher education organizations or clubs; and working with local foundations and organizations.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATH**
- Workshops on aligning with the school day and incorporating standards into program activities; engaging youth in real world application of STEM concepts and processes; successful local, state, and national models; strategies for implementing inquiry-based learning and project-based learning; and leveraging partnerships to expand content.

**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**
- Workshops on healthy out-of-school time programming, nurturing youth social, emotional and cognitive development; implementing inclusive programs that welcome all youth; civic engagement; trauma-informed practices for working with youth and adults; and equipping youth with tools for advocacy and social change.